

# 9B



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Lorin R. DeBonte, et al.      Art Unit : Unknown  
 Serial No. : 09/771,904      Examiner : Unknown  
 Filed : January 29, 2001  
 Title : FATTY ACID DESATURASES AND MUTANT SEQUENCES THEREOF

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

**In the claims:**

Please cancel claims 32-34 and 43.

Please amend claims 4, 44 and 45 as follows:

B<sup>1</sup> 4. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a Brassicaceae delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation in a region of said desaturase gene encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif, wherein said at least one mutation renders the product of said desaturase gene non-functional and wherein said sequence includes said at least one mutation.

B2 44. (Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein said identifying step comprises identifying a mutation in a His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His amino acid motif.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

May 14, 2001  
 Date of Deposit

Lisa Johnson  
 Signature

Lisa Johnson  
 Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Applicant : Lorin R. DeBonte, e  
Serial No. : 09/771,904  
Filed : January 29, 2001  
Page : 2

Attorney's Docket No. 07148-063003 / A15-505.35

624  
copy  
E 71  
cont. 45. (Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein said producing step h) comprises  
producing seeds yielding an oil having an a-linolenic acid content from about 0.5% to about  
10%.

---